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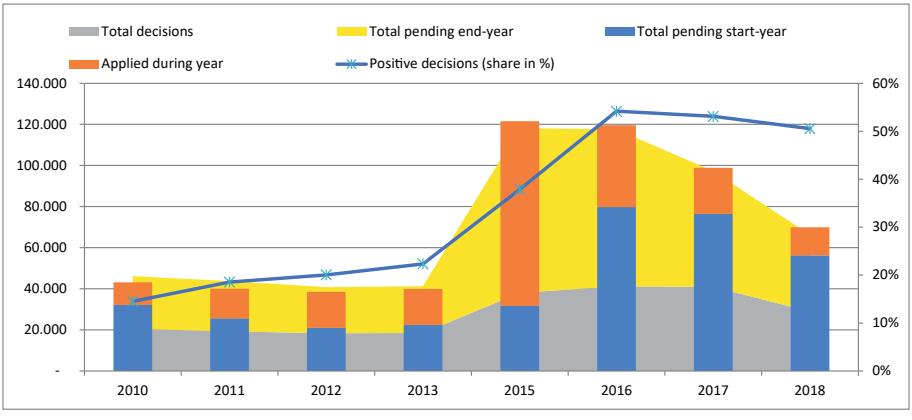
The Successful Settlement of Refugees in Austria: A Multiple Indicators and Multiple Causes Approach

1. Introduction

Between 2014 and 2016, Austria experienced a large influx of refugees due to the escalation of the war in Syria. Together with Germany and Sweden, this made it one of the three European economies that absorbed the largest numbers of asylum-seekers *per capita*.[2] In 2015, in particular, asylum applications more than tripled, with only one third of them getting a decision within a year. In the following years, new applications for asylum dropped significantly but the number of those pending remained high. While, during this period, the share of positive decisions rose to 50 per cent, the process of getting the status of refugee recognised took longer and longer, thus jeopardising the path to integration of refugees (see Figure 1 and Annex A, Table A1).

Figure 1: Asylum applications in Austria 2010–2018



Source: authors' elaboration, UNHCR 2019: ‚Persons of concern', *UNHCR Populations Statistics*.

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[2] In Germany about 1.2 million asylum-seekers were registered in 2015 and 2016 compared to 131,000 in Austria and 199,000 in Sweden. On a *per capita* basis, Sweden received 17 asylum applications per 1,000 inhabitants in 2015 (in 2016 this went down to 3), Austria 10 (reduced in 2016 to 5) and Germany 6 (increased in 2016 to 9). Hungary also received a large number of asylum-seekers, of whom very few remained there, (Eurostat, 2017).

On the one hand, the high number of asylum applications and prolonged procedures to gain refugee status put a strain on labour-market integration; on the other, the macroeconomic outlook of Austria's economy improved markedly after 2015. Between 2010 and 2015 the unemployment rate in Austria had increased – reaching 8.1 per cent in 2015 among natives – but fell quite sharply after that (see Figure A1 in Annex A). The unemployment rates were much higher among people originating from Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq – ranging from around 50 per cent for Afghans and Iraqis to 70 per cent for Syrians in 2015/16. However, unemployment then also decreased in these groups to values of between 30 and 50 per cent in 2018 (see Figure A1 in Annex A). Such dynamics suggest that, at least from the macroeconomic perspective, the prospects for the labour-market integration of refugees had gradually improved.

It is important to emphasise that there are differences between those refugees arriving since 2014 and earlier groups who found refuge in Austria – such as those originating from the former Yugoslavia (Bock-Schappelwein/Huber 2015, 54). The specific personal characteristics, cultural affinities or ethnic networks of the newly arrived refugees in Austria necessitated a number of new measures appropriate for their settlement in the host country. Apart from the policies and practices implemented in the past, new measures were introduced to meet the needs of these groups and support their integration.[3] These measures particularly concerned refugees' integration into the labour market. A number of programmes facilitated their access to German language courses, education and training programmes, including competence checks and support for the recognition of qualifications.

The successful integration or settlement of migrants in the host country can be properly analysed if, apart from employment prospects, further dimensions of integration are being addressed. Accordingly, the purpose of this study is not only to tackle a number of research questions relevant for labour-market integration but also to move towards a comprehensive concept of the 'successful settlement' of refugees (encompassing a wider range of integration domains). More specifically, the focus is on the objective outcomes of integration – such as employment or access to education and training, access to housing and health services. However, we also introduce subjective well-being (SWB) indicators – such as the self-assessment of a person's satisfaction with life in the host country, acculturation and host-country language acquisition and involvement in social activities of the host country. Thus, we aim to investigate the path to successful settlement, how to define it and what determines it.

We propose to use a framework which analyses the successful integration of refugees using a number of reflective indicators which signal integration and formative indicators which capture the causes of successful integration. We follow the conceptual framework

[3] Further details about the programmes and measures targeting the integration of refugees in Austria between 2014 and 2016 can be found in Martin et al. (2016, 26).

proposed by Lester (2008, 6) which employs a MIMIC (Multiple Indicators and Multiple Causes) approach to analyse the successful integration of immigrants in Australia. The empirical analysis is based on the use of survey data collected between December 2017 and April 2018 – in the context of a project funded by the Jubilee Fund of the Austrian National Bank (OeNB). The methodological and empirical approach that we adopt is innovative in the way that we examine the process of integration of migrants/refugees not only by focusing on social and economic outcomes but also by using a wider spectrum of indicators, including personal, contextual and subjective ones.

This study starts with a short literature review concerning different aspects of the integration of migrants and refugees. Secondly, we present a short description of the survey database and sample composition. Thirdly, we introduce the methodological approach implemented in this study followed by a report on our estimation results. Finally, we conclude by summarising our findings and highlighting the main policy implications.

2. Literature review

2.1. The integration of migrants and objective indicators

The successful integration or settlement of recent refugees in Austria and other EU countries has turned into a hotly debated issue among the general public, academics and policymakers. Certainly, of primary interest is economic integration, which is directly linked to labour-market integration. Nevertheless, other integration domains – such as social or cultural ones – are essential for guaranteeing the proper settlement of refugees in the host society. Ager/Strang (2008, 170) propose four pillars for defining integration, the first of which is 'markers and means' – which comprises employment, housing and education as key areas indicative of successful integration. The second pillar consists of 'social connections', which are considered to be fundamental for achieving integration. In particular, Ager/Strang distinguish 'social bonds', which are important for enabling refugees to share cultural practices and maintain familiar patterns of relationships; 'social bridges', which enable them to connect with host communities/get involved in the host society and, finally, 'social links', which support individuals in connecting with the administrative structures of the state, such as government services. The third pillar includes 'facilitators', which appear to be important to integration as they reduce the barriers to key information. Within this group, 'language skills' – i.e. the command of the language of the host community – and 'cultural knowledge' are central to the integration process *per se* as well as to effective integration within the wider community. The fourth pillar highlights the 'rights and citizenship' which are relevant in shaping a certain sense of identity, especially in the long run.

As far as 'markers and means' are concerned, the international literature shows that immigrants quite often have lower participation rates in the labour market compared to natives (Kerr/Kerr 2011; UNHCR 2013). The gap between migrants and natives is more

pronounced in the early phase of arrival but decreases over time. As regards refugees, at the EU level, the employment participation rate increases over time – up to 60 per cent for men and 52 per cent for women (Eurostat 2014). Evidence from Sweden – a country which traditionally has a good track record of the successful integration of migrants, including refugees – shows that, even though integration into employment might be low at the beginning, the progress of refugees in the labour market is quite rapid after this initial phase (Ruist 2013). For immigrants with a low participation rate in the labour market and lower levels of education, the incidence of their living in less advantageous housing conditions (regarding location, size or quality) is high (Phillips 2006).[4]

Labour-market integration seems to be particularly challenging for refugees – and third-country migrants more generally – coming from lower-income regions and for females in particular (Aldén/Hammarstedt 2014). According to the European Social Survey, previous immigration originating in Middle Eastern countries (e.g. Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Syria) and in Africa (e.g. Somalia, Eritrea) and the Western Balkans faced greater obstacles to integration into the labour market than other immigrants. There are also other important differences in terms of gender and country of origin. Women, particularly from Turkey and Middle Eastern countries and, more generally, from the Muslim community, tend to have a lower participation rate in the labour market, which is in part explained by the higher number of children and by cultural differences regarding female employment among these communities (BMEIA 2015).

Skills, qualification and education levels matter. Some preliminary findings suggest that recent refugees appear to be better educated than their previous co-nationals (Eckhardt et al. 2017). However, barriers in the recognition of qualifications make integration difficult. Long spells of inactivity might contribute to the further deterioration of previously acquired skills and consequently make re-entry into the labour market more challenging. Other problems emerge from cultural, religious or ethnic differences. For France, characterised by a large community of Muslims, research shows strong discrimination – on the basis of religious affiliation – in accessing the labour market (Adida/Laitin/Valfort 2014). Similar results are also confirmed in the USA for Muslim Arabs compared with Christian Arabs. The former group reports greater labour-market discrimination and consequently weaker labour-market performance than the latter (*ibid*.).

With reference to 'social connections', the literature suggests that social networks and contacts with family members and co-nationals are important and that ethnic employment is especially relevant. However, the literature has also indicated that there are positive and negative externalities from networking with nationals from the same country of origin (Korac 2005; Koser 1997). Networking with co-nationals with a longer period of settlement might prove beneficial because it raises the likelihood of employment

[4] Housing space per person for third-country migrants in Austria was 31 square metres versus 47 for migrants from other EU countries (Österreichischer Integrationsfonds 2017, 13).

and better earnings prospects. The opposite is true if recent refugees/migrants stick predominantly to other recently arrived migrants (Beaman 2012).

When it comes to 'facilitators', Derwing/Waugh (2012) find that the social integration of migrants in Canada is certainly facilitated by having a good command of the host-country language. Nevertheless, language proficiency should be combined with proper access to cultural knowledge in order to assure the participation of migrants in the host society. Remennick (2004) found that, in the Russian community in Israel, a good command of the host-country language was one of the causes as well as an outcome of social insertion and acculturation. Cebulla/Daniel/Zurawan (2010) and Rooth (2004) point out that employment strongly depends on the knowledge of the language in the host country.

A number of studies focusing on rights, the 'sense of belonging' and the naturalisation of migrants argue that 'immigration means change – immigrants adapt to the societies to which they move and natives adjust to the newcomers' (Martin 2010, 8). Berry (1997), who focuses on immigration and the process of acculturation, argues that switching from one cultural context into a new one is a phenomenon that requires 'mutual accommodation'; this implies that all groups in a society agree to accept some (higher or lower) degree of cultural differentiation. In the Austrian context, the attitude of natives towards immigrants from non-EU countries has improved although discrimination against immigrants there still remains among the highest in the EU (BMEIA 2015; Huddleston et al. 2015). Landesmann/Mara/Vidovic (2013) find that Serbian migrants in Austria face discrimination during the process of searching for a job and in the level of earnings, the tasks assigned at the workplace and in everyday life. According to Huddleston et al. (2015, 57), 'migrants in Austria have the poorest knowledge of their rights as victims of discrimination and some of the weakest mechanisms to enforce the law'. Despite the implementation in Austria of new policy measures targeting the employment, education and health of and discrimination against immigrants, such policies remain weak and very general and reach only a small number of beneficiaries (Huddleston et al. 2015, 74).

2.2. The integration of migrants: subjective and objective indicators

The integration of migrants is often evaluated solely from the perspective of objective indicators such as employment or earnings, while subjective well-being indicators have not been sufficiently taken into consideration. The integration of migrants captured through objective indicators – especially that of labour-market integration – is certainly crucial but what matters the most is the overall integration of migrants, which we could also call 'proper settlement'. A 'proper settlement' evaluation, apart from objective indicators, also requires a focus on subjective well-being indicators such as personal well-being – which can be proxied with an indicator such as 'how happy the person feels with the choice to migrate', 'how happy the person feels having moved to a certain destination country' or 'how confident the person is about his/her choices' – or how he/she self-assesses his/her physical or mental health.

The literature developed particularly over the last two decades stresses the importance of the happiness/life satisfaction/SWB component in the migration choice (De Jong/Chamratrithirong/Tran 2002). Better employment and earning prospects are expected to have a positive effect on happiness. However, this is not necessarily the case. Migrants might earn more but feel less satisfied in the destination country; they tend to be less happy than natives and migrants from different source countries – even controlling for various objective indicators – tend to report different levels of happiness (Easterlin 2001; Martijn/Bartram 2019).

Recent studies by Landesmann and Mara (2012, 2013) on the consequences of migration on the life satisfaction of migrants show that the decision to migrate does not necessarily make migrants better off. Furthermore, negative outcomes such as deskilling or family relationships – if negatively affected – might influence the migration choice or permanent settlement. Landesmann/Mara/Vidovic (2013) found that Serbian migrants in Austria face difficulties in attaining the recognition of their qualifications, have a lesser likelihood of acquiring new skills on the job and quite often accept employment below their perceived level of qualification. Consequently, fewer than half of the sample self-report being happy with their migration experience. The literature indicates that the integration of migrants is dependent on their initial migration intentions, the achieved outcomes upon arrival and psychological factors. Migrants who have the 'intention' of staying permanently are more likely to experience a significant increase in life satisfaction whereas, with temporary migrants, it also depends on whether their initial intention was to stay only temporarily (or more permanently) in the host country (Schündeln/Schündeln 2009). De Jong/Chamratrithirong/Tran (2002) looked at the consequences of migration on life satisfaction and found that the move to another country negatively affected life satisfaction, particularly for recent migrants. The cause could be their unrealistic expectations about the quality of life in the host country. Accordingly, research on the integration of migrant workers and their family members, with a focus on a broader spectrum of determinants, both objective and subjective, may be useful for analysing integration or 'successful/proper settlement'.

3. The survey data and sample characteristics

As mentioned above, the current study is based on the compilation of a special survey in the context of an OeNB Jubilee Fund project. It was conducted by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) on behalf of the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw) and the University of Graz. The questionnaire was jointly drawn up together with a group of researchers from the University of Vienna as well as August Gächter from the Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI). The survey focused on recognised refugees originating mainly from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria although including a few others as well, mostly from Iran (see Table 1).

The survey was conducted between December 2017 and April 2018 in the five Austrian provinces of Vienna, Upper Austria, Styria, Salzburg and Tyrol, either through face-

to-face interviews (CAPI), self-administered questionnaires (tablet/PC, CASI) or online questionnaires (CAWI). Face-to-face interviews were conducted at various refugee, education and employment organisations in the five provinces' capital cities. Interviews were conducted by trained interviewers (native speakers) in German, Arabic or Farsi, depending on the interviewees' preference and language proficiency. Online questionnaires were also available in German, Arabic and Farsi. Furthermore, a helpline was installed and manned by native speakers to assist interviewees in completing online questionnaires.

The majority of the interviewees were reached through the random sampling of asylum-seekers and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection who were registered with the Austrian Public Employment Service (AMS), either at the time of interview or previously. In addition, face-to-face interviews were conducted in the various Austrian provinces; these also included respondents from an earlier survey wave (conducted between August 2016 and May 2017) who had agreed to be contacted again. Interviewees were selected through random sampling, stratified by province and citizenship.

Table 1: FIMAS Survey data summary

Sample size	1554
Mode of interview	Online; Self completed (tablet/PC); Face-to-face
Period of interview	December 2017–April 2018
Regional coverage	Burgenland, Carinthia, Upper and Lower Austria, Salzburg, Styria, Tyrol, Vorarlberg, Vienna
Country of origin	Afghanistan, Irak, Iran, Syria, other
Arrived in AT	2010 onwards

Source: ICMPD (2018) FIMAS Survey 2018, Wave 2. Version 1.6. Research Data Set. Vienna.

The information collected consisted of:

- pre-migration and 'while being a migrant' characteristics with respect to household composition, family members, education, employment and other socio-demographic and personal characteristics related to personality, risk attitudes, aspirations and physical and mental health self-assessment;
- motives for migration and the causes of and experiences resulting from migration – both positive and negative;
- future migration plans, permanent or temporary settlement, intentions to return and expected length of stay;
- migration patterns (previous migration experience, current migration situation and intentions for the future);
- education (country of education, level of education, recognition of diploma, parents' education and profession, acquisition of skills and training in the destination country and partner's educational level);

- employment (previous and current occupation, employment status, hours of work, qualification for the job, working sector, type of contract and type of payment);
- job satisfaction (with remuneration and type of job, discrimination at work and aspirations for the job);
- integration aspects, related to employment, education, social inclusion, identity, access to health services and housing aspects; and
- SWB indicators: e.g. life satisfaction during migration and retrospectively before migration, aspirations, personal traits, social relationships, reference groups and networks.

A descriptive overview of the main characteristics of the refugees in the sample is presented in Table A3 in Annex A. Close to 80 per cent of the refugees interviewed were male. They were relatively young, as around 30 per cent fell within the age group 15–24 years and 40 per cent into the age group 25–34. More than half of them – close to 56 per cent – originated from Syria, another 23 per cent from Afghanistan and 13 per cent from Iraq, with the remaining refugees reporting other countries of origin. The educational composition suggests that the sample had a relatively satisfactory level of education: close to 75 per cent had a secondary or tertiary level of education – specifically, a quarter of them had a 'first stage' (Bachelor's) level of tertiary education. At the time of interview, more than half resided in Vienna, close to a third were already employed, around 80 per cent affirmed that they had 'good' or 'very good' physical health and more than half responded that they were 'free from any psychological discomfort'. Nevertheless, another 30 per cent confirmed that they were 'heavily' or 'moderately' burdened by psychological discomfort.[5]

Subjective well-being indicators (see Tables A3 and A4 in Annex A) revealed that – on a Likert scale between 1 and 10 – more than half scored an 'above average level of happiness with life in Austria' or 'with having left the country of origin' and 'with their housing situation in Austria'. However, a non-negligible share (10 per cent) of the refugees affirmed that they were 'mostly unhappy with life in Austria',[6] 'mostly unhappy to have left home' (11 per cent) or 'mostly unhappy with their housing situation in Austria' (24 per cent). Other indicators also suggested that more than 60 per cent of interviewees were granted refugee status 'within one year of their application' and another 26 per cent received the status 'within two years'; for the rest, it took more than three years.

4. Methodology: the MIMIC approach

The Multiple Indicators and Multiple Causes (MIMIC) approach considers settlement as a latent construct where a number of dimensions of the migration experience are observed.

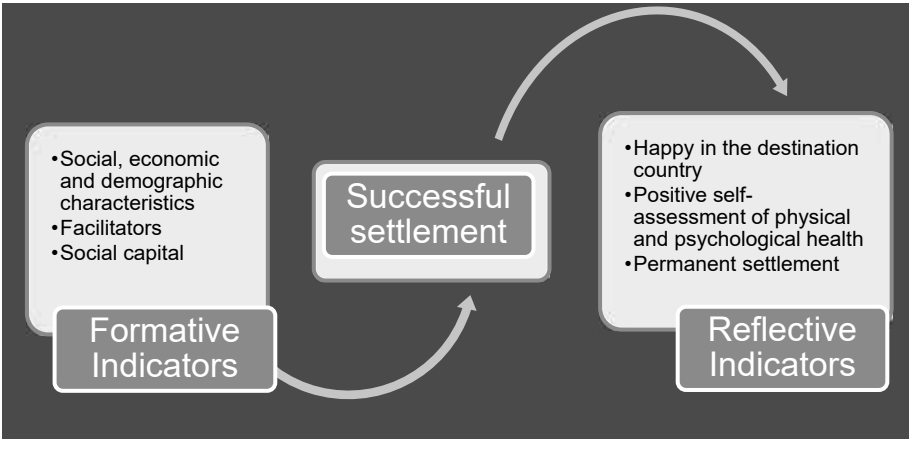
[5] The variable 'free from psychological discomfort/good psychological health' was generated following Leitner et al. (2018).

[6] 'At least a 1 to 3 Likert scale score'.

Following this framework, we can analyse the successful integration of refugees using *reflective indicators* – which signal integration – and other *formative indicators*, illustrated in Diagram 1, both of which are the causes of successful integration, as in Lester (2006, 2008). The conceptual framework proposed by Lester (2008) was used to analyse the successful integration of immigrants in Australia.

The guiding idea is that the influence of causal formative indicators on unobservable latent variables is captured through their impact on reflective indicators. In our approach we initially follow Lester (2008) and Ager/Strang (2008) by taking into account a number of objective indicators which signal integration; we then extend the work by using a number of subjective indicators which reflect integration. The modelling strategy is based on the estimation of a system of equations which specify the relationship between an unobservable latent variable (successful settlement), a set of observable endogenous indicators and a set of observable exogenous variables (which are believed to be the causes of successful settlement). The MIMIC approach consists of specifying and integrating two models: the formative measurement model – which relates the latent variable settlement to the causes/formative indicators – and a reflective measurement model that takes into account the fact that there is no single variable capturing successful settlement but, instead, a number of indicators.

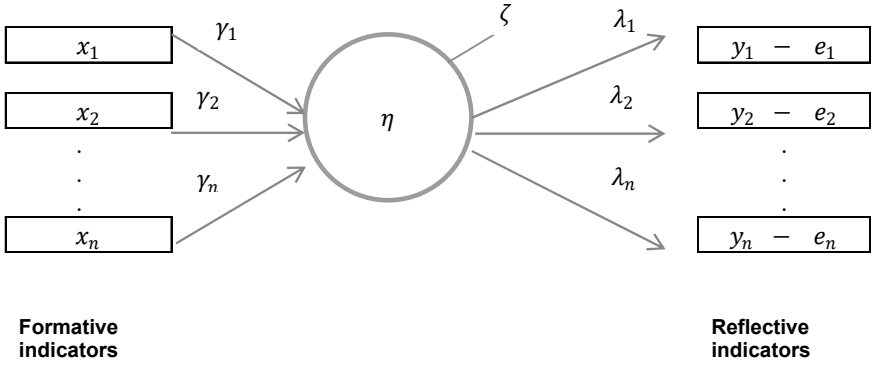
Diagram 1: Successful settlement/integration measurement, multiple causes multiple indicators approach



Source: authors' elaboration.[7]

[7] See Annex B, Diagrams B1 and B2, for further details.

Diagram 2: General Structure of MIMIC Model



Source: authors' elaboration.

The formative measurement model can be presented as follows:

$$\eta = \boldsymbol{\gamma}_i x_i + \zeta \qquad (1)$$

with x_i representing different formative measures, η representing the latent construct of successful settlement and $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_i$ capturing the effect of x_i on η, whereas ζ is the random error term. The reflective measurement model can be presented as follows:

$$y_i = \boldsymbol{\lambda}_i \eta + e_i \qquad (2)$$

where the y_i represents the reflective indicators, η is the associated construct – in our context representing successful settlement – the $\boldsymbol{\lambda}_i$ captures the impact of η on y_i and e_i is the measurement error term. Combining Equations 1 and 2, we get the reduced form system as follows:

$$y_i = \lambda_i * (\gamma_i x_i + \zeta) + e_i = \boldsymbol{\Pi}' * x_i + \varphi_i \qquad (3)$$

The reduced form coefficient matrix would be $\Pi = \gamma\lambda'$ and the reduced form of the disturbance vector $\varphi_i = \lambda\zeta + e_i$. The error term φ_i is a linear combination of error terms ζ and e_i of the respective formative and reflective measurement equations which has a covariance Ω given as $\Omega = \lambda\lambda'\psi + \Theta_\varepsilon$. Equation 3 could be estimated as a structural equation model where observed formative indicators x_i determine the latent construct η – successful settlement – and η would determine the observed reflective indicators y_i.

4.1. Formative indicators of successful settlement

We use variables which are formative to a successful integration. Such determinants include gender, age, marital status, information on household members, network/contact

with co-nationals, religious affiliation, country of origin and/or area of residence in the host country, employment situation or the length of time needed to get access to the labour market. These causal indicators represent our X domain or the group of causal indicators which determine successful settlement.

The survey collected information about the social and economic characteristics of the various dimensions of (the) integration (experience), such as employment, subjective well-being, health, housing situation, social and cultural integration aspects, networking, education and participation in integration-oriented programmes. We performed a principal-components analysis (PCA) with the purpose of uncovering indicators which might be relevant for successful integration or settlement.

As suggested by Ager/Strang (2008) social capital might be captured through variables which represent contacts with different ethnic groups – natives, co-nationals and people with nationalities other than that of the person's country of origin prior to immigration. The density and frequency of the contacts can play an important role in the process of settling in the destination country and were captured in the survey. Another group of determinants – which Ager/Strang (2008) identify as facilitators – refer to a good command of other languages, such as English, although, more importantly, a good command and frequent use of the immigration country's language.

In order to reduce the dimensionality of variables that can be used as determinants of settlement, a principal component analysis (PCA) was implemented. The PCA estimates the principal components which are linear combinations of variables that explain the greatest variance in the data. Details about the components constructed with PCA are provided in Annex C, Tables C1 and C2. In the reflective measurement model we have thus included variables such as age, gender, family size, residency and country of origin, employment-related variables such as employment status and length of employment and also other determinants which are a proxy for 'social capital' – such as 'social bonds' (relationship with co-ethnics, attachment to country of origin etc.), 'social bridges' (relationship to host population, identification with host country etc.) and other indicators classified as 'facilitators'. The specific formative indicators attained via the principal component factor analysis were 'social bonds' and 'social bridges'. For the former, variables such as 'identification with the country of origin', 'having frequent contacts with co-nationals' and 'consuming media in the native language' were relevant. For the latter, variables such as 'identifies with Austria', 'having frequent contacts with Austrians' and 'consuming media in the German language' appeared to explain a great part of the variance in the first principal component (see Table C1 in Annex C).

As far as 'facilitators' are concerned, the PCA reduced the dimensionality of a battery of variables about German and English proficiency and most importantly 'the level of command' and 'the use of the host country's language' by the refugees. In detail, 'good command of the German language' was constructed using the respective variables about level of understanding, speaking, writing and reading in the German language. Another

variable classified as a facilitator was the 'frequent use of the German language' and combined a number of variables such as its use at work, at home, at school and during leisure activities. In addition, the command of English also emerged as relevant, captured by variables which reported understanding, speaking, writing and reading in English (see Table C2 in Annex C).

Indicators were also collected about the length of time spent in Austria, the length of time searching for a job and – having found one – the length of the employment. Such information was used to construct indicators that allowed for an analysis of the 'time dimension of integration' and its potential impact on successful settlement – as an example, see the matrix in Annex C, Table C3, about the possible combinations between 'length of stay' and 'length of being employed' in Austria. By combining these two variables, we came up with a category of people who were classified as having achieved 'entry into employment within a short term upon arrival in Austria'. This first group comprised refugees who had been in Austria for less than a year and were able to gain employment or those who had been longer in Austria but whose 'duration of stay' corresponded with the 'duration of being employed' in Austria. A second group were those who gained employment within the medium term upon arrival in Austria. This group was comprised of refugees who had a 1–3-year difference between 'duration of stay' and 'duration of employment' in Austria. The third group included those refugees classified as having a 'protracted entry into employment'. The main feature for this group was that the gap between the 'duration of stay' and the 'duration of being employed' was greater than three years. The fourth group included those who were continuously unemployed, independent of the length of their stay in Austria. For more details, see Table C3 in Annex C. This combination of indicators was used to analyse the time dimension effect on 'settlement' and to enrich the set of formative indicators.

4.2. Reflective indicators of successful settlement

Successful settlement is a many-sided concept. No direct measure is available but it can be proxied by a number of indicators which might reflect a successful or proper settlement. In the MIMIC approach, settlement is defined as a latent construct and successful settlement is captured by reflective indicators. Following Ager/Strang (2008) and Lester (2008), we specified the reflective measurement model by taking into account a number of indicators which are subjective but which might reflect whether the person has settled successfully or not. Such variables include subjective well-being indicators such as 'being happy with life in Austria', 'being happy having left the country of origin' and 'being happy with his/her housing situation in Austria'. Such variables are representative of a self-assessment that migrants make about their migration experience in Austria. Besides this, a number of self-assessment questions about the respondents' physical and mental health have been used to construct a reflective indicator of health status – for further details see Diagram B2 in Annex B.

5. Estimation results and discussion of the main findings

As discussed above, 'settlement' is defined as a latent construct captured by several reflective indicators and determined by a number of key variables that contribute to settlement. The model is estimated as a structural equation model where observed formative indicator X defines the latent construct – successful settlement – and, *inter alia*, successful settlement would determine the observed reflective indicator Y. We have organised the estimation results in Table C4, divided into Part A, which shows the estimates attained for the formative measurement model (our $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_i$); Part B, which presents the estimation results of the reflective measurement model (our $\boldsymbol{\lambda}_i$); and Part C, which reports some goodness-of-fit statistics for the latent construct.

5.1. Formative measurement model estimates

We present here two different specifications: the first (S1) reports the estimation results which take account simply of 'duration of stay' in Austria among the formative indicators. The second specification (S2) reports estimations that take into account the 'duration of stay in Austria' as well as the 'number of years of getting refugee status recognised'. As was shown (Figure 1 and Table A1) regarding the dynamics of asylum applications, the time for obtaining refugee status ranges from one to five years. Hence, we consider it important to analyse any potential effect of this duration variable on the settlement outcome. We report estimation results separately for S1 and S2. Since our sample was predominantly male and consisted of younger-age cohorts, we also ran S1 and S2 separately for males and undertook estimations that left out the younger cohorts – i.e. those aged 15–19 years – as a robustness check of our results versus the total sample. Besides this, a number of further specifications have been estimated to check for robustness regarding the time dimension indicators and time of entry into employment.[8]

The first two columns of Table C4, Part A, identify what our estimations reveal to be the determinants of a 'successful settlement' of refugees in Austria for the sample as a whole over the estimation period. Regarding the demographic characteristics of the refugees, we find that the age group 25–34 years is more successful in 'settlement' than other age categories. This result is confirmed for S1 and S2 and applies to the different samples presented in Table C4. However, among males (see columns 5–7) we find that, in addition to those aged 25–34, males in the age group 15–24 years are likely to be associated with more successful settlement. Refugees who originate from Afghanistan and Syria tend to have a more successful settlement than refugees originating in other countries. Such an outcome is confirmed mainly for the total sample or those in the 20+ age group. However, these coefficient estimates lose significance if we control for the 'duration of getting refugee status recognised', as in S2 – suggesting that country of birth is not a significant

[8] For reasons of space, the results of these robustness checks are not reported in this chapter but are available from the authors on request.

determinant for successful settlement when the latter indicator is taken into account. Religion generally does not appear to be relevant but, for males as well as for those in the 20+ age group, being Christian is associated with more successful settlement.

When it comes to 'time dimension' and 'employment indicators', we found significant, though weak, positive coefficients for 'duration of being in Austria for 1 year' which disappears when we account for 'duration of getting refugee status recognised' (negatively associated with successful settlement), which indicates that 'duration of stay' might be a less powerful indicator to be associated with successful settlement. Estimates for 'being employed' are at first sight somewhat surprising as the variable is (weakly but significantly) negatively related to 'successful settlement'. When we add the additional 'duration indicator', whereby 'duration of stay' interacts with 'duration of being employed' in Austria, it turns out to be positive, significant and robust across most specifications for the 'middle category' – i.e. for persons who entered the labour market over a 2–3-year period and had a duration of employment of about one year. Robustness check estimations (available upon request), which accounted for 'years of being unemployed since arrival', 'years for finding a job since arrival' and 'years of being employed since arrival', indicated that long-term unemployment is significantly negatively associated with successful settlement. The analysis with regards to employment needs further deepening, as very fast entry into employment might involve a higher job-skill mismatch and/or a perception of status loss compared with a more protracted search period. This is an issue which we would like to explore further.

As far as 'social capital' indicators – such as 'social bonds' and 'social bridges' – are concerned, we find positive, strongly significant and robust estimation results for the constructed 'social bridges' variable (see Annex C, Table C1), which refers to contact and identification with the host society across all specifications applied to the different samples. This finding is very important and confirms that successful settlement might be strongly linked to social participation and connections with the host-country community. Regarding 'facilitators', we find that intensive use of the German language in the different contexts of everyday life is significant for settlement. This finding confirms that the use of the host-country language might generate a stronger and more significant impact on successful settlement than simply a command of the host-country language (which turned out to be insignificant).

5.2. Reflective measurement model estimates

Table C4, part B, reports the estimated weights for each of the reflective indicators for successful settlement in the reflective measurement equation. They refer to the subjective well-being indicators 'feeling overall happy with life in Austria', 'being confident about settling permanently in Austria' and 'being confident and positive with respect to one's own mental and physical health' – all significant and important variables in the latent construct of successful settlement. 'Being overall happy with life in Austria' and 'being

overall happy to have left the country of origin' have the highest loadings, which suggest that successful settlement is well captured via subjective reflective indicators about the migration decision. Physical health self-assessment appears to have the lowest loading in explaining successful settlement. Such results are confirmed for diverse specifications as well as for samples which were defined in the previous section; see Annex C, Table C4.

6. Conclusions and main policy implications

There is an extensive body of literature on the labour-market integration of migrants and more broadly regarding their social integration in the host country. Since 2014, this literature has been growing, following the high refugee inflow from North Africa and Middle Eastern countries to the EU. Labour-market integration is certainly crucial but what we address in this paper is the *overall* integration of migrants, which we call 'successful settlement'. 'Successful settlement' should be seen as a many-sided concept which is not directly measurable but which can be proxied by a range of indicators potentially associated with successful or proper settlement. To address this issue we took a MIMIC approach which allows us to think of the model as comprising two parts: a structural equation model for successful settlement (which relates the latent variable 'settlement' to causal factors) and a measurement equation that takes into account the fact that there is no single variable capturing successful settlement. For our empirical exercise we used new survey data on refugees who moved to Austria between 2010 and 2017, focusing in particular on refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

The empirical analysis showed that successful settlement can be captured by a number of reflective indicators; we argue therefore that a person who feels happy with his/her life overall in Austria is confident about settling there permanently. A person who is confident and positive with respect to his/her mental and physical health can be considered as properly settled in Austria. Subjective indicators of well-being matter and are important signals for successful settlement; as such, they deserve more attention from policymakers.

Some suggestions for policymakers emerging from the results of our study are that more important than a good command of German is its frequent use in everyday life – in different contexts such as work, school, leisure and home. Hence, encouragement and support in this direction is crucial.

The study revealed that a quick entry into the labour market after or immediately upon arrival in Austria does not significantly determine successful settlement. Instead, a protracted entry into employment within two to four years of the arrival in Austria contributes to successful settlement. This might have something to do with the time it takes to attain a more appropriate skills–job match and/or perception of status losses or experiences of discrimination upon taking up employment immediately. Refugees might need a certain period between the time of arrival and the first entry into employment in order to better prepare or access a new labour market – requiring different skills, recognition of skills and working conditions etc. to those characterising the labour market in their countries

of origin. This interpretation needs, however, further empirical investigation that would allow us to capture the dynamics of this dimension in the settlement process. Thus far, our findings might suggest the importance of initial integration (adjustment) programmes aimed at preparing refugees' access to the labour market, so that employment becomes sustainable over time and the likelihood of successful settlement increases.

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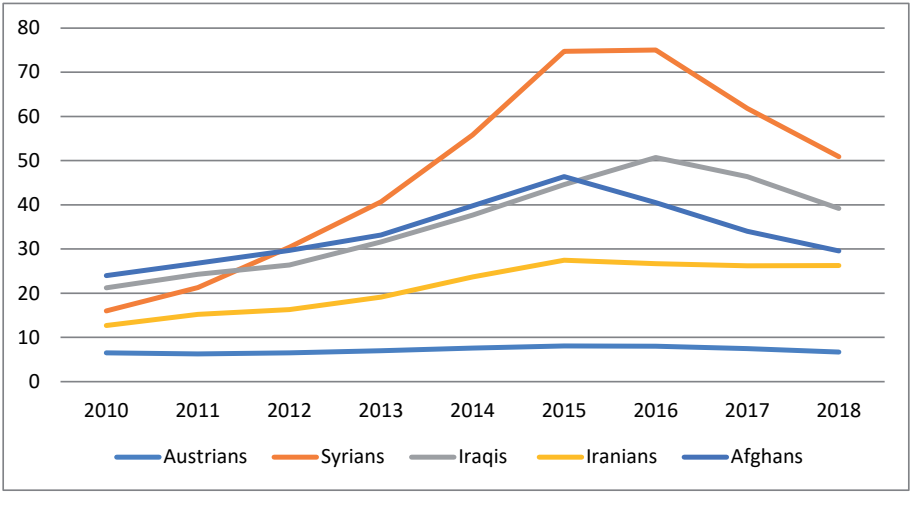
Annex A

Figure A1: Registered unemployment rate: Austrians and selected third country immigrants, 2010–18 (in per cent)



Source: BaliWeb; see BALI 2019.

Table A1: Asylum applications and decisions in Austria – 2010–2018

	Total pending start-year	Applied during year	Decisions: status recognized Conv/Mandate	Decisions: recognized other	Decisions: Rejected	Total decisions	Total pending end-year
2010	32146	11012	2977	1749	13290	20528	25625
2011	25625	14416	3572	2023	11553	19248	24480
2012	21034	17413	3680	2050	10745	18353	22429
2013	22425	17496	4132	1819	10377	18489	22739
2014	n.a.	28064					
2015	31675	89900	14413	2478	13152	38052	80075
2016	79723	39905	22307	3699	4180	41178	76409
2017	76409	22471	21767	7081	5142	40995	56304
2018	56269	13686	14636	4157	6804	28959	37317

Source: authors' elaboration using UNHCR 2019: ‚Persons of concern', *UNHCR Populations Statistics*.

Table A2: Sample characteristics (in per cent of total sample)

Demographic, social and economic characteristics	FIMAS+
Gender	
Male	79.86
Female	20.14
Age	
15–24	32.84
25–34	39.88
35–44	18.84
45–60	6.43
Country of birth	
Syria	55.7
Afghanistan	22.8
Iraq	13.63
Iran	4.72
Other	3.15
Educational attainment	
Early childhood education	9.32
Primary education	16.13
Lower secondary education	15.4
Upper secondary education	22.21
Post-secondary non-tertiary education	8.92
Short-cycle tertiary education	
Bachelor or equivalent	24.26
Master or equivalent	2.78
Doctorat or equivalent	0.99
Duration for attaining refugee status	

Demographic, social and economic characteristics	FIMAS+
1 year	64.63
2 years	26.42
3 years	7.35
4+ years	1.63
Family size	
One member	53.02
2 members	4.12
3 members	10.75
4 members	8.94
5 members	10.42
6 members	7.08
7 members	5.66
Residence in Austria	
Lower Austria	1.87
Upper Austria	9.85
Styria	17.13
Tyrol	8.24
Salzburg	8.95
Vienna	52.93
Other	0.54
Employment status	
Employed	33.93
Unemployed	63.53
Has a job offer	2.53
Plans to settle permanently in Austria	
No	29.6
Yes	70.4
Total number of observations	1554

Source: authors' elaboration FIMAS database; for details see ICMPD (2018)

Table A3: Subjective well-being indicators I.

	Overall happy with life in Austria, in %	Overall happy having left the country of origin, in %	Overall happy with housing situation in Austria, in %
Totally unhappy	4.17	6.34	14.1
1	2.27	2.28	3.92
2	3.8	2.14	5.91
3	5.12	4.56	6.77
4	5.99	3.35	5.63
5	18.57	15.89	14.67
6	11.55	8.05	6.98
7	16.74	10.91	10.19
8	13.74	13.33	10.19
9	6.73	7.98	5.63
Totally happy	11.33	25.16	16.03
Observations	1,368	1403	1404

Source: authors' elaboration FIMAS database; for details see ICMPD (2018)

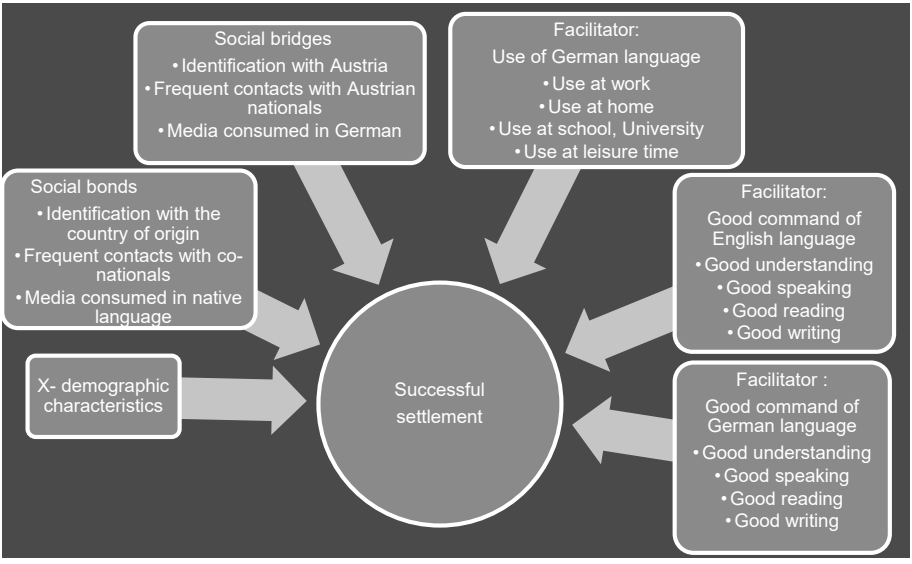
Table A4: Subjective well-being indicators II.

Psychological comfort	
Heavy burden	19.76
Moderate load	11.44
Light load	14.7
Symptom-free	54.09
Physical comfort	
Very good	42.66
Good	39.71
Neutral	8.85
Less good	7.8
Bad	0.98
Total number of observations	1554

Source: authors' elaboration FIMAS database; for details see ICMPD (2018)

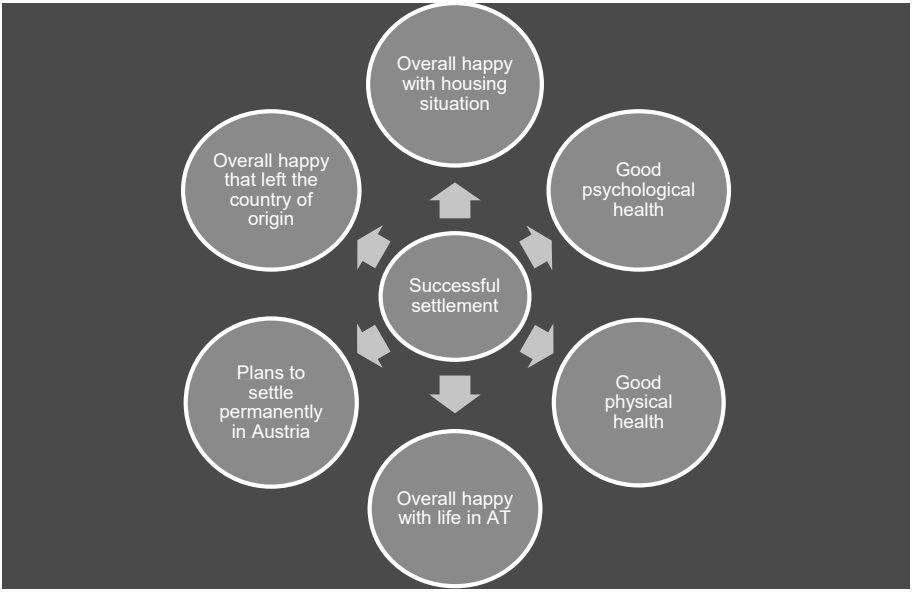
Annex B

Diagram B1: Formative measurement model - causes of successful settlement



Source: authors' elaboration

Diagram B2: Reflective measurement model - indicators of successful settlement



Source: authors' elaboration

Annex C

Table C1: Principal component analysis: variables used for 'social capital' via polychoric principal component analysis (PPCA)
Respective weights in the estimation of the principal components

Component 1: Social Bridges			Component 2: Social bonds		
Identification with Austria	Strongly agree	0.62	**Identification with the country of origin**	Strongly agree	0.89
	Agree	0.10		Agree	0.36
	Neither agree nor disagree	-0.27		Neither agree nor disagree	-0.02
	Disagree	-0.49		Disagree	-0.33
	Strongly disagree	-0.79		Strongly disagree	-0.81
Frequent contacts with Austrians	No contacts	-1.05	**Frequent contacts with co-nationals**	No contacts	-0.99
	Seldom	-0.50		Seldom	-0.54
	Once a month	-0.23		Once a month	-0.28
	Once a week	-0.09		Once a week	-0.09
	More than once per week	0.12		More than once per week	0.12
	Every day	0.62		Every day	0.54
Media consumed in German language	No	-0.43	**Media consumed in native language**	No	-0.58
	Yes	0.61		Yes	0.39
	Eigenvalue	1.54		Eigenvalue	1.37
	Cum. variation explained	0.52		Cum. variation explained	0.46

Table C2: Principal component analysis: variables used for the 'facilitators' via polychoric principal component analysis (PPCA)
Respective weights in estimation of the principal component

Component 1: Good command of English language			Component 2: Good command of German language			Component 3: Frequent use of German language		
Understanding	Very poor	-0.79	**Understanding**	Very poor	-0.87	**Use at work**	Never	-1,291
	Poor	-0.32		Poor	-0.61		Seldom	-0,769
	Fair	0.06		Fair	-0.50		Sometimes	-0,164
	Good	0.43		Good	-0.39		Often	0,44
	Very good	0.89		Very good	0.18		Always	1,048
Speaking	Very poor	-0.74	**Speaking**	Very poor	-0.73	**Use at home**	Never	-1,342
	Poor	-0.24		Poor	-0.33		Seldom	-0,812
	Fair	0.14		Fair	-0.11		Sometimes	-0,151
	Good	0.49		Good	0.01		Often	0,48
	Very good	0.09		Very good	0.42		Always	1,07

Component 1: Good command of English language			Component 2: Good command of German language			Component 3: Frequent use of German language		
Reading	Very poor	-0.82	**Reading**	Very poor	-0.91	**Use at school. University**	Never	-1,32
	Poor	0.36		Poor	-0.66		Seldom	-0,823
	Fair	0.00		Fair	-0.56		Sometimes	-0,253
	Good	0.39		Good	-0.41		Often	0,337
	Very good	0.09		Very good	0.19		Always	0,969
Writing	Very poor	-0.78	**Writing**	Very poor	-1.03	**Use at leisure time**	Never	-1,24
	Poor	-0.32		Poor	-0.65		Seldom	-0,733
	Fair	0.07		Fair	-0.34		Sometimes	0,167
	Good	0.45		Good	-0.10		Often	0,398
	Very good	0.88		Very good	0.41		Always	0,974
	Eigenvalue	3.68		Eigenvalue	2.08		Eigenvalue	3,218
	Cum. variation explained	0.92		Cum. variation explained	0.52		Cum. variation explained	0,804

Table C3: Labour market entry matrix: early vs delayed entry into the labour market

		Years of stay in Austria		
		< 1 year	1–3 years	4–6 years
Years of being employed	<1 year	Entry into the labour market: **early**	Entry into the labour market: **less fast**	Entry into the labour market: **protracted**
	1–3 years		Entry into the labour market: **early**	Entry into the labour market: **less fast**
	4–6 years			Entry into the labour market: **early**

Source: authors' elaboration

Table C4: Estimates of MIMIC model for latent construct 'Successful settlement'

	(S1) Total sample	(S2) Total sample	(S1) Age 20+	(S2) Age 20+	(S1) Male	(S2) Male	(S1) Male and age 20+	(S2) Male and age 20+
Part A: Formative structural model estimates								
Gender: Male	-0.02	-0.00	-0.03	-0.01				
	(-0.52)	(-0.01)	(-0.68)	(-0.22)				
Age group 15–24	0.15+	0.13	0.10	0.10	0.16*	0.17+	0.11	0.13
	(1.94)	(1.45)	(1.36)	(1.13)	(1.97)	(1.70)	(1.42)	(1.37)
Age group 25–34	0.17*	0.15+	0.17*	0.16+	0.18*	0.16+	0.19*	0.18+
	(2.29)	(1.85)	(2.30)	(1.91)	(2.22)	(1.76)	(2.27)	(1.86)
Age group 35–44[9]	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03
	(0.47)	(0.26)	(0.39)	(0.24)	(0.34)	(0.34)	(0.44)	(0.45)
Lower secondary education	-0.07	-0.04	-0.06	-0.05	-0.13*	-0.07	-0.10	-0.06
	(-1.20)	(-0.66)	(-0.97)	(-0.66)	(-2.02)	(-1.06)	(-1.44)	(-0.81)
Upper secondary education	-0.01	-0.06	0.01	-0.05	-0.01	-0.05	0.03	-0.02
	(-0.24)	(-0.89)	(0.12)	(-0.66)	(-0.20)	(-0.65)	(0.38)	(-0.20)
Post-secondary education	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.08
	(0.13)	(0.34)	(0.44)	(0.45)	(0.54)	(0.74)	(1.04)	(1.06)
Tertiary education and post (left out: other, Primary education)	-0.07	-0.08	-0.05	-0.08	-0.08	-0.07	-0.05	-0.05
	(-0.87)	(-0.88)	(-0.62)	(-0.80)	(-0.99)	(-0.78)	(-0.57)	(-0.52)
Family size	0.02	0.01	-0.02	-0.00	-0.10	-0.03	-0.20	-0.09
	(0.08)	(0.03)	(-0.10)	(-0.02)	(-0.40)	(-0.10)	(-0.77)	(-0.33)
Family size squared	0.24	0.26	0.29	0.28	0.37	0.32	0.47+	0.40
	(1.15)	(1.10)	(1.29)	(1.15)	(1.50)	(1.15)	(1.78)	(1.37)
Religion: Christian	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.13*	0.12+	0.14*	0.12+
	(1.53)	(1.38)	(1.57)	(1.41)	(2.17)	(1.80)	(2.13)	(1.78)
Religion: Muslim	-0.03	-0.05	-0.03	-0.05	-0.02	-0.06	-0.04	-0.08
	(-0.46)	(-0.72)	(-0.47)	(-0.84)	(-0.38)	(-0.88)	(-0.57)	(-1.15)
Religion: other (left out: no religion)	-0.03	-0.02	-0.05	-0.03	-0.04	-0.06	-0.06	-0.08
	(-0.62)	(-0.47)	(-1.03)	(-0.65)	(-0.70)	(-1.09)	(-1.20)	(-1.39)
Originate from Syria	0.19*	0.09	0.24*	0.12	0.18+	0.06	0.21*	0.09
	(2.23)	(0.97)	(2.52)	(1.18)	(1.88)	(0.53)	(2.10)	(0.79)
Originate from Afghanistan	0.16*	0.10	0.20*	0.12	0.13	0.07	0.17+	0.10
	(2.09)	(1.26)	(2.38)	(1.39)	(1.55)	(0.74)	(1.92)	(1.02)

[9] 'Age group above 44', 'no level of education', 'no religion', 'other country of birth', 'residing in other regions', 'being in Austria for more than 5 years', 'unemployed' and 'length of attaining refugee status more than 4 years' are used as reference categories.

	(S1) Total sample	(S2) Total sample	(S1) Age 20+	(S2) Age 20+	(S1) Male	(S2) Male	(S1) Male and age 20+	(S2) Male and age 20+
Originate from Iraq (left out: other)	0.04	0.01	0.08	0.03	0.04	-0.01	0.07	0.02
	(0.56)	(0.07)	(1.05)	(0.37)	(0.46)	(-0.10)	(0.88)	(0.17)
Resides in Salzburg	-0.02	0.00	-0.02	-0.00	-0.07	-0.05	-0.06	-0.04
	(-0.26)	(0.02)	(-0.25)	(-0.07)	(-1.03)	(-0.73)	(-0.91)	(-0.51)
Resides in upper Austria	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.00	-0.01	0.02	0.02
	(0.30)	(0.26)	(0.44)	(0.39)	(-0.07)	(-0.17)	(0.27)	(0.28)
Resides in lower Austria	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.07	0.06
	(1.18)	(1.01)	(1.06)	(0.93)	(0.85)	(0.53)	(0.94)	(0.77)
Resides in Vienna	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.03	-0.05	-0.10	-0.03	-0.03
	(0.36)	(0.09)	(0.35)	(0.31)	(-0.61)	(-1.01)	(-0.31)	(-0.33)
Duration in Austria: 1 year	0.11+	0.12+	0.12+	0.14*	0.07	0.05	0.08	0.08
	(1.76)	(1.91)	(1.78)	(2.09)	(1.02)	(0.81)	(1.03)	(1.18)
Duration in Austria: 2 years	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03
	(0.26)	(0.41)	(0.28)	(0.43)	(0.04)	(0.11)	(0.23)	(0.35)
Duration in Austria: 3 years	0.05	0.12	0.03	0.10	0.11	0.15	0.11	0.17
	(0.52)	(1.07)	(0.34)	(0.93)	(1.06)	(1.28)	(0.97)	(1.33)
Duration in Austria: 4 years	0.06	0.08	0.05	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.09
	(0.74)	(0.92)	(0.65)	(0.85)	(0.95)	(0.74)	(0.95)	(0.80)
Duration in Austria: 5 years	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.05
	(0.74)	(0.98)	(0.71)	(0.90)	(0.60)	(0.47)	(0.74)	(0.64)
Being employed	-0.15	-0.24*	-0.19+	-0.32*	-0.17	-0.24+	-0.22+	-0.35*
	(-1.53)	(-1.99)	(-1.83)	(-2.42)	(-1.58)	(-1.84)	(-1.91)	(-2.33)
Fast entry into labour market 1 year in AT – 1 year employed	-0.05	-0.07	-0.04	-0.06	-0.02	-0.09	-0.01	-0.09
	(-0.79)	(-1.13)	(-0.67)	(-1.03)	(-0.24)	(-1.52)	(-0.13)	(-1.50)
2–3 years in AT – 2–3 years employed	0.07	0.09	0.07	0.12+	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.11
	(1.31)	(1.31)	(1.29)	(1.66)	(1.15)	(1.00)	(1.12)	(1.40)
4–6 years in AT – 4–6 years employed	-0.03	-0.04	-0.03	-0.02	-0.03	-0.04	-0.02	-0.02
	(-0.72)	(-0.76)	(-0.55)	(-0.43)	(-0.49)	(-0.69)	(-0.37)	(-0.30)
Less fast entry into labour market 2–3 years in AT – 1 year employed	0.13+	0.18+	0.15+	0.22*	0.12	0.15	0.13	0.20+
	(1.69)	(1.83)	(1.78)	(2.12)	(1.35)	(1.42)	(1.38)	(1.69)
4–6 years in AT – 1–3 years employed	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.11	0.08	0.09	0.10	0.13
	(1.01)	(1.19)	(1.26)	(1.50)	(1.17)	(1.17)	(1.44)	(1.56)
4–6 years in AT – less than 1 year employed	0.16+	0.21*	0.19*	0.27*	0.19*	0.23*	0.22*	0.31*
	(1.93)	(2.08)	(2.17)	(2.42)	(2.04)	(2.08)	(2.17)	(2.39)

	(S1) Total sample	(S2) Total sample	(S1) Age 20+	(S2) Age 20+	(S1) Male	(S2) Male	(S1) Male and age 20+	(S2) Male and age 20+
Social Bridges	0.34***	0.30***	0.35***	0.32***	0.33***	0.27***	0.34***	0.28***
	(4.95)	(4.14)	(4.89)	(4.10)	(4.46)	(3.48)	(4.22)	(3.35)
Social Bonds	-0.10+	-0.08	-0.09	-0.07	-0.11+	-0.09	-0.11+	-0.10
	(-1.88)	(-1.31)	(-1.59)	(-1.16)	(-1.93)	(-1.46)	(-1.87)	(-1.51)
Good command of German language	-0.04	-0.03	-0.05	-0.03	-0.07	-0.03	-0.09	-0.04
	(-0.77)	(-0.43)	(-0.90)	(-0.54)	(-1.26)	(-0.41)	(-1.45)	(-0.64)
Good command of English language	-0.01	0.03	0.00	0.03	-0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02
	(-0.11)	(0.41)	(0.04)	(0.45)	(-0.07)	(0.26)	(0.07)	(0.33)
Frequent use of German language	0.11*	0.13*	0.10+	0.13*	0.14*	0.17*	0.14*	0.18*
	(2.05)	(2.26)	(1.83)	(2.15)	(2.34)	(2.54)	(2.22)	(2.55)
Duration of attaining refugee status in Austria: 1 year		-0.77		-0.72		-0.78		-0.75
		(-1.43)		(-1.37)		(-1.42)		(-1.38)
2 years		-0.74		-0.71		-0.77		-0.74
		(-1.47)		(-1.44)		(-1.49)		(-1.46)
3 years		-0.44		-0.41		-0.46+		-0.42
		(-1.64)		(-1.60)		(-1.65)		(-1.60)
4 years		-0.22		-0.21		-0.27*		-0.26*
		(-1.63)		(-1.61)		(-2.05)		(-2.02)
Part B: Reflective structural model estimates				Successful settlement: latent construct η				
Happy with housing situation	0.39	0.37	0.38	0.35	0.37	0.36	0.35	0.33
	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
_cons	1.35***	2.06***	1.33***	2.00***	1.38***	2.13***	1.35***	2.01***
	(9.70)	(4.67)	(9.29)	(4.76)	(10.28)	(4.91)	(10.06)	(5.05)
Good physical health	0.26***	0.24***	0.24***	0.23***	0.28***	0.25***	0.25***	0.23**
	(4.64)	(3.97)	(4.18)	(3.60)	(4.31)	(3.66)	(3.82)	(3.25)
_cons	4.57***	5.17***	4.59***	5.16***	4.55***	5.20***	4.55***	5.19***
	(45.01)	(17.54)	(45.48)	(18.81)	(42.07)	(16.57)	(42.28)	(18.06)
Good psychological health	0.44***	0.42***	0.46***	0.43***	0.46***	0.44***	0.48***	0.46***
	(6.46)	(5.56)	(6.21)	(5.30)	(5.75)	(4.93)	(5.31)	(4.60)
_cons	2.26***	3.09***	2.24***	3.06***	2.33***	3.26***	2.29***	3.21***
	(14.36)	(6.16)	(13.13)	(6.00)	(14.20)	(6.23)	(12.87)	(5.93)
Overall happy that left the country of origin	0.60***	0.60***	0.61***	0.62***	0.59***	0.58***	0.62***	0.60***
	(6.65)	(5.45)	(6.36)	(5.24)	(5.90)	(4.87)	(5.41)	(4.55)
_cons	1.81***	2.97***	1.76***	2.91***	1.86***	3.05***	1.75***	2.95***
	(8.76)	(4.15)	(7.98)	(3.99)	(9.09)	(4.44)	(7.81)	(4.10)

	(S1) Total sample	(S2) Total sample	(S1) Age 20+	(S2) Age 20+	(S1) Male	(S2) Male	(S1) Male and age 20+	(S2) Male and age 20+
Plans to settle permanently in Austria	0.41***	0.42***	0.40***	0.41***	0.41***	0.42***	0.42***	0.43***
	(5.53)	(4.66)	(5.23)	(4.46)	(4.97)	(4.21)	(4.65)	(3.99)
_cons	1.44***	2.18***	1.39***	2.10***	1.52***	2.34***	1.45***	2.25***
	(9.97)	(4.36)	(9.31)	(4.27)	(10.42)	(4.65)	(9.16)	(4.37)
Happy with life in Austria	0.69***	0.68***	0.70***	0.69***	0.68***	0.66***	0.67***	0.66***
	(8.45)	(7.26)	(7.93)	(6.77)	(7.27)	(6.36)	(6.50)	(5.70)
_cons	2.00***	3.35***	1.92***	3.26***	2.01***	3.46***	1.92***	3.29***
	(8.52)	(4.19)	(7.67)	(4.05)	(8.61)	(4.38)	(7.91)	(4.22)
Part C: goodness of fit tests[10]								
N	660.00	569.00	608.00	530.00	544.00	471.00	502.00	437.00
Root Mean-Square Error of Approximation (RMSEA) Acceptance Criteria: < 0.05 close	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.047	0.047	0.046	0.047	0.046
Standardized Root Mean-Square Residual (SRMR)	0.026	0.026	0.027	0.026	0.027	0.027	0.028	0.027
Comparative Fit Index (CFI) Acceptance Criteria:>0.9 good fit	0.62	0.58	0.63	0.60	0.643	0.60	0.65	0.61

Note: Statistical significance level: + $p < 0.10$, * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$; t-values in parenthesis; Standardized parameter estimates are provided.

[10] Table C4, Part C reports goodness of fit statistics for the MIMIC model. Such statistics assess how close the specified model is to replicate the correlation matrix. A RMSEA < 0.05 indicates a 'close fit'. In our context, applying this criterion suggests that the MIMIC model for the successful settlement of refugees has a good fit. Also other goodness of fit statistics such as SRMR and CFI suggest a favourable fit of the model.